

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5264

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AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8289

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, KS, KE

SUBJECT: KOREAN QUESTION IN UN

REF: A. STATE 225930

B. USUN 4345

C. NAIROBI 7745

1. POL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED KOREAN QUESTION SEPT. 23 WITH MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY KITI, SECOND-RANKING CAREER OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY. DRAWING ON REF A, POL COUNSELOR INFORMED HIM OF SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO 1953 ARMISTICE, STRESSED IMPORTANCE TO THE US OF KOREA ITEM AT UNGA THIS YEAR, AND ALERTED HIM TO FORTHCOMING MODIFICATION OF U.S. RESOLUTION TO INCORPORATE PROPOSALS ADVANCED BY SECRETARY. REMAINING POINTS CONTAINED REF A HAD ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED ON SEPT. 4 (REF C), AND KITI WAS REMINDED OF THEM.

2. KITI WELCOMED IDEA OF CONFERENCE TO MAINTAIN ARMISTICE AND REDUCE TENSIONS. HE FELT THIS WOULD STRENGTHEN U.S. RESOLUTION IN PRECISELY THE AREA WHERE IT WAS MOST VULNERABLE,
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AS HE HAD POINTED OUT

DURING SEPT. 4 DISCUSSION.

3. POL COUNSELOR THEN ASKED WHETHER KITI WAS AWARE OF SEPT. 17 VOTE ON KOREA IN GENERAL COMMITTEE. KITI SAID HE HAD ASKED FOR REPORT BUT HAD RECEIVED NOTHING. WHEN INFORMED OF KENYA'S VOTE ON THREE KEY ISSUES, (REF B), HE EXPRESSED CHARRIN PAND SURPRISE. HE SPECULATED THAT KENYA'S VOTE MAY HAVE BEEN DETERMINED BY INSTRUCTIONS FROM FONMIN WAIYAKI WHO IS IN NEW YORK, BUT IF THIS WAS THE CASE WAIYAKI HAD BEEN VEXED BADLY ADVISED BY SOMEONE IN THE KENYA DELEGATION.

4. ROK CHARGE IS CALLING ON KITI AFTERNOON SEPT. 23 AND WILL ALSO REGISTER DISAPPOINTMENT WITH KENYA VOTE IN GENERAL COMMITTEE.

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT NO INSTRUCTIONS ARE GOING FROM NAIROBI TO NEW YORK SO LONG AS FONMIN IS PRESENT AT UNGA. KOREA ISSUE IS UNDERSTOOD BY CAREER OFFICIALS AT MFA AND THEY ARE NOW AWARE THAT U.S. ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO KENYA'S POSITION. TZWEY MAY BE ABLE TO WORK ON WAIYAKI WHEN HE RETURNS TO BRING KENYA VOTE MORE NEARLY INTO LINE WITH PROFESSED POLICY OF AVOIDING COLD WAR ISSUES, SUPPORTING REDUCTIONS OF

TENSIONS, ETC. OUTCOME IS UNCERTAIN, HOWEVER, SINCE IT WAS WAIYAKI WHO APPARENTLY SLIPPED NORTH KOREAN RECOGNITION THROUGH GOK CABINET MEETING EARLIER THIS YEAR, ONLY TO BE REINED IN BY PRESIDENT KENYATTA WHEN PYONGYANG ANNOUNCED RECOGNITION PUBLICITY.
MARSHALL

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